



PARTNERS IN SUSTAINABILITY

RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES IN THE FOREFRONT

BLOOMINGTON’S **SUCCESS** is centered on its people, neighborhoods, businesses and government. The City’s vision for the future is to build and renew the community by providing quality services, promoting redevelopment and guiding growth in a more sustainable, fiscally sound manner. Although the City of Bloomington plays a key role as catalyst and planner, the City needs partners to help make the transformation.

Many businesses and residents are on board with this vision. They are the City’s community partners in sustainability. By using renewable materials, alternative forms of transportation and smart design concepts, these partners are embracing a more sustainable future and helping guarantee that Bloomington remains **STRONG, STEADY** and **SUCCESSFUL**.

Here are a few examples of businesses and residents who are leading the way as stewards of the environment and their community.

Sustainable Spotlight

Certified as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional by the U.S. Green Building Council, City Planner Michaela Ahern has the skills and knowledge required to facilitate a **LEED CERTIFICATION PROCESS**, which ensures a building project meets green building and performance measures.



THE AIRPORT SOUTH DISTRICT SETS HIGH STANDARDS

CREATING A SUSTAINABLE PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY

BLOOMINGTON IS PREPARING a plan for the Airport South District that is bordered by I-494 to the north, TH 77 on the west, and the Minnesota River on the south and east. The District contains 65 percent of the total development potential for the city.

The goal of the plan is to build on the District’s unique mix of assets, including:

- LRT and bus transit.
- Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.
- Regional highways.
- National Wildlife Refuge.
- Mall of America.
- Bloomington Central Station.

McGough Companies saw the potential in this area in 2001. They prepared plans for Bloomington Central Station, a mixed-use, transit-oriented development that incorporates

sustainable living spaces such as the Reflections condominiums, *see article below*, along with offices for work and parks and open spaces for relaxation and play.

The City is currently working with a marketing firm to help establish and promote the District as a branded place, emphasizing sustainability, quality, safety and comfort.



“We wanted to create a plan that really complemented the transit and existing benefits of the area, such as the airport, Mall of America and the wildlife refuge.”

McGough Project Manager Mark Fabel

EASY LIVING AT REFLECTIONS

RESIDENTS ATTRACTED TO SUSTAINABLE ASPECTS OF CONDOS

THE “UNIQUE SYNERGY of the residential and commercial areas” attracted Bloomington resident Jason Wilsey to purchase a home in one of Reflection’s 17-story residential towers at Bloomington Central Station. The convenience of the light rail was a big selling point.

“I lived in Shakopee before this, so commuting downtown was a good hour’s drive each way,” Wilsey said.

According to Bloomington resident Brian Jacobs, purchasing a home in Reflections has completely changed his life for the better.

“I go to work at the airport in six minutes flat,” Jacobs said. “I’m driving less than half of what I used to drive. I’m able to devote more time to my interior design clients and I have a great space to work out of my home and a great central location.”

McGough Companies’ Reflections is the first phase of a 43-acre, mixed-use, transit-oriented development along the Hiawatha LRT line, aimed at reducing reliance on automobile travel. The floor-to-ceiling insulated glass of

Reflections reveals the area’s surrounding beauty, but it also serves to mitigate noise from the nearby airport, provides natural daylight and reduces energy costs for residents. For this and other construction features, Reflections was awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Certification for New Construction (LEED-NC) by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED is the internationally recognized green building rating system that provides a framework for designing and constructing sustainable, energy efficient buildings.

Sustainable building materials and fitting in with the wildlife refuge nearby were McGough Companies’ goals for Reflections.



“To hop on the light rail and go downtown in less than 30 minutes time, even on the busiest days or in the worst weather, has completely changed the amount of time I have to devote to other things.”

Reflections Resident Jason Wilsey



27,000

Total Bloomington FARMERS MARKET attendees.



22

Years the City has been designated a “TREE CITY.”



2

Times per year the City will mow the SLOW-GROWING FESCUE GRASS MIX being tested at Civic Plaza.

